

07-C-0198



ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

LISA M. BORDERS
PRESIDENT

55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.
SUITE 2900
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
Main (404) 330-6035
Fax (404) 658-7551
Email imborders@atlantaga.gov

January 31, 2007

Rhonda Dauphin Johnson
Municipal Clerk
City of Atlanta
55 Trinity Avenue, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Please accept Mr. Lonnie King as my appointment to the Rev. Joseph Boone Memorial Commission, as specified in Resolution 06-R-2279. Mr. King is a resident of the City of Atlanta.

Mr. King has a proven commitment to the greater Atlanta community. His credentials are attached for your review. I believe he will serve as a valuable asset to the Commission as we seek to appropriately honor and sustain the legacy of Rev. Joseph Boone.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Borders
President
Atlanta City Council

Attachments

cc: Felicia Moore, Chair, Committee on Council
C. T. Martin, Councilmember, District 10
Derrick Williams, Office of the Mayor
Lonnie King

1973 – 1981. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

The Onyx Corporation. Responsibilities included proposal development and management and marketing with federal, state and local agencies.

As CEO, the incumbent developed the corporation into a multifaceted corporation with national and international Contracts. He personally wrote grants and contracts totally in excess of 12 million dollars that were funded by the following agencies:

- (1) Health and Human Services;**
- (2) Department of Energy;**
- (3) Federal Aviation Administration;**
- (4) Office of Minority Business, Department of Commerce;**
- (5) Consumer Product Safety Commission; and**
- (6) The City of Atlanta.**

At its peak, the corporation employed 48 full-time and 150 part- time employees, with offices in Atlanta, GA, Washington, D. C., San Francisco, CA, Boston, Massachusetts, and Mountain View, GA.

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVITIES

Prior to 1960, African Americans had been relegated to a position of "Second Class" citizenship, which had existed almost since 1619. Segregation was ubiquitous throughout the southeastern and southwestern United States, except with local transportation in a small number of cities. Accordingly, thousands of African American college students decided that segregation had to end forthwith, and organized massive resistance to segregation through sit-ins at places of public accommodations and kneel-ins at white churches. Students from the six Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Atlanta, Georgia formed the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights (COAHR), which served as their civil rights organizing vehicle. The applicant, while pursuing an undergraduate degree at Morehouse College in 1960, organized and served as the Chairman of COAHR. The major accomplishments of COAHR were:

- + Wrote "An Appeal for Human Rights," which was published in a full-page advertisement in the daily papers of Atlanta on March 9, 1960, and in the New York Times;**
- + Desegregation of over 300 eating establishments;**
- + Desegregation of all movie theaters;**
- + Through selective boycotts, stimulated several major chain stores to hire African Americans above menial capacities i.e. butchers, clerks, cashiers, etc.**
- + Desegregation of beauty parlors, nurseries for children, lounges, and restrooms in downtown Atlanta department stores;**
- + Filing of omnibus lawsuit, without a lawyer, which desegregated all restrooms, restaurants, and courtrooms in Fulton County and the city of Atlanta;**
- + Filing of an additional lawsuit which desegregated all swimming pools, tennis**

- courts, and playgrounds in Atlanta;
- + Originated the concept of the "Kneel-In," which put the African American's struggle for equality squarely on the conscience of many white churchmen. The 11:00 A. M. worship service was the most segregated hour of the week in America.

The "Kneel-In" technique caused many white congregations to desegregate. Registration of over 5,000 African Americans within a 30-day period during the spring of 1961.

The applicant was also one of the founders of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which was organized in April of 1960, at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina. He served on its first executive committee representing the State of Georgia.

The applicant was the principal organizer and chairman of the Community Coalition on Broadcasting in Atlanta, Georgia from 1969 to 1973. This organization was created to deal with the paucity of African Americans in the broadcasting industry in Atlanta and in America. Under the applicant's leadership, the organization challenged the licenses of all 25 broadcasters in Atlanta, Georgia in 1969, citing the absence of African American employees within the respective workforces and the lack of any concern in its programming for the tastes, needs, and desires of the African American Community.

The applicant served as president of the Atlanta, Georgia chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1969-1973. During this period, he designed and implemented programs to eliminate barriers to the advancement for African Americans in the metropolitan Atlanta area. Significant accomplishments during this period were:

- Filing of lawsuits against Georgia Power to integrate its workforce;
- Negotiated the hiring of the first African American superintendent of schools for the city of Atlanta public schools. Additionally, secured 50 percent of all top positions for African Americans.
- Registered several thousand African Americans as new voters in the city of Atlanta.
- Filed the law suit that reapportioned the 5th Congressional district of Georgia, which afforded the election of the first African American Congressman from the South since Reconstruction (1972);
- Created the aforementioned Community Coalition on Broadcasting.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Served as president and/or Chairman of the following organizations:

Morehouse College National Alumni Association,
1998 to 2002.

Trustee Board, St. John Baptist Church, 1997 to 2004.

**Bentley-Schmoke Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Baltimore, Maryland,
2000 to 2006.**

Baltimore Morehouse College Metropolitan Alumni Association, 1989-1994.

Atlanta, GA Branch of the NAACP 1969-1973.

Community Coalition on Broadcasting, Atlanta, GA, (1969-1973).

**Young Democrats Clubs of Washington, D. C.
(1966-1968).**

**Youth Organizations United for Home Rule,
Washington, D. C.
(1966-1968).**

Committee on Appeal for Human Rights, 1960-61.

MEMBERSHIP ON BOARDS

Board of Trustees, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga.(1998 to 2002).

Board of Trustees, Morehouse College Medical School, Atlanta, Georgia. (1998 to 2004).

Consumers for World Trade, Washington, D. C. (1975-1980).

American Civil Liberties Union, Atlanta, Georgia. (1969-1971).

Opportunities Industrialization Center, Atlanta, Georgia. (1968-1972).

**Baltimore Morehouse Mentoring Advisory Committee, Baltimore, Maryland. (1990 to
2005).**

Atlanta Action Forum, Atlanta, Georgia. 1973-1984.

Washington Home Rule Committee, Washington, D. C. 1966-1969.

AWARDS AND CITATIONS

Recipient of outstanding citizenship awards from the following organizations:

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Graduate Chapter,
Atlanta, Ga.**

**Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Undergraduate
Chapter, Atlanta, Ga.**

**Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Graduate Chapter,
Atlanta, Ga.**

**Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Graduate Chapter,
Atlanta, Ga.**

**Phi Delta Sigma Teachers Sorority, (Cleveland,
Ohio).**

Southeastern Regional NAACP.

The Elks, (IBPOEW).

Clark-Atlanta University

City of Atlanta

Baltimore-Morehouse College Alumnus of the Year, 1993.